

In the Claims:

1. (Previously cancelled) A method of treating a female patient for urinary stress incontinence, comprising:

per vaginally inserting a bone anchor to enter the posterior wall of the pubic bone, said bone anchor comprising suture thread secured thereto; and,

using said suture thread and a sling to treat the incontinence.

2. (Previously cancelled) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said suture thread and said sling are used to position the bladder neck of the patient.

3. (Previously cancelled) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said suture thread and said sling are used to position the urethra of the patient.

4. (Previously cancelled) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said suture thread and said sling are used to position the bladder neck and the urethra of the patient.

5. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device for securing a suture to a suture attachment site in a patient comprising:

a body having a suture entrance and a suture exit;

a motive suture delivery mechanism disposed within said body; and,

said motive suture delivery mechanism including a sensory feedback element indicative of delivery of said suture to said suture attachment site.

6. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 5, wherein said sensory feedback element is an audible tone.

7. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 6, wherein said audible tone is a changing audible tone.

8. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 7, wherein said changing audible tone is generated by said motive suture delivery mechanism.

9. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 8 wherein said motive suture delivery mechanism includes a battery powered motor.

10. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 5 wherein the body is sized and shaped to anchor the suture on a posterior portion of a patient's pubic bone.

11. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 5, wherein said sensory feedback element is a visual indicator.

12. (Amended) A device [according to claim 11,] for securing a suture to a suture attachment site in a patient comprising:

a body having a suture entrance and a suture exit;

a motive suture delivery mechanism disposed within said body;

said motive suture delivery mechanism including a sensory feedback element indicative of delivery of said suture to said suture attachment site;

wherein said sensory feedback element is a visual indicator, and

wherein said visual indicator includes cessation of twisting of said suture.

13. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A method of securing a suture to a suture attachment site in a patient comprising:

identifying a suture attachment site in said patient;

directing said suture proximate to said site;

initiating delivery of said suture to said site;

awaiting sensory indication of delivery of said suture to said suture attachment site;

discontinuing said delivery of said suture upon receiving said sensory indication.

14. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A method as set forth in claim 13, wherein said receiving of said sensory indication includes receiving an audible tone.

15. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A method as set forth in claim 13, wherein said receiving of said sensory indication includes receiving a change in said audible tone.

16. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A method as set forth in claim 13, wherein said receiving of said sensory indication includes observing a visual indicator.

17. (Amended) A method [as set forth in claim 16,] of securing a suture to a suture attachment site in a patient comprising:

identifying a suture attachment site in said patient;

directing said suture proximate to said site;

initiating delivery of said suture to said site;

awaiting sensory indication of delivery of said suture to said suture attachment site;

discontinuing said delivery of said suture upon receiving said sensory indication,

wherein said receiving of said sensory indication includes observing a visual indicator, and

wherein said receiving of said sensory indication includes observing a substantial cessation of suture twisting.

18. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device for delivering a bone anchor with an associated suture to a patient, the device comprising:

a body that is sized and shaped to deliver the anchor and associated suture to a posterior portion of a patient's pubic bone through a vaginal incision,

the device having a suture entrance and a suture exit;

a bone anchor delivery mechanism associated with said body; and,

the device including a sensory feedback element indicative of delivery of said bone anchor with associated suture to the posterior portion of the patient's pubic bone.

19. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 18, wherein the bone anchor includes a bone screw.

20. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 18, wherein said sensory feedback element is an audible tone.

21. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 20, wherein said audible tone is a changing audible tone.

22. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 21, wherein said changing audible tone is generated by said bone anchor delivery mechanism.

23. (Original From Preliminary Amendment) A device according to claim 18, wherein said sensory feedback element is a visual indicator.

24. (Amended) A device [according to claim 23,] for delivering a bone anchor with an associated suture to a patient, the device comprising:

a body that is sized and shaped to deliver the anchor and associated suture to a posterior portion of a patient's pubic bone through a vaginal incision,

the device having a suture entrance and a suture exit;

a bone anchor delivery mechanism associated with said body;

the device including a sensory feedback element indicative of delivery of said
bone anchor with associated suture to the posterior portion of the patient's pubic bone;

wherein said sensory feedback element is a visual indicator, and

wherein said visual indicator includes cessation of twisting of said suture.